

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IOE-00 EA-07 /067 W

----- 116962

P R 031935Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3801

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

JOEMBASSY KINGSTON 1568

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 2444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GUAM, UN, GY

SUBJECT: FONMIN WILLS PLANS TRIP; SEEKS U.S.POSITION ON NEW
SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: (A) STATE 291440, (B) GEORGETOWN 2434 (NOTAL

SUMMARY: IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION TODAY (DECEMBER 3) WITH
CHARGE FONMIN WILLS MENTIONED PLANNED TRAVEL TO NEW YORK AND
LAGOS DECEMBER 15, INDICATED GOG WILL SUPPORT WALDHEIM
AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN, AND STILL NON-COMMITTAL BUT
LEANING OUR WAY ON GUAM ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

1. ELECTION OF SECRETARY GENERAL. FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS
TELEPHONED CHARGE TODAY TO ASK WHO U.S. WAS SUPPORTING
FOR SECRETARY GENERAL. CHARGE REPLIED HE DID NOT KNOW
BUT BELIEVED WE HAD GOTTEN ALONG REASONABLY WELL WITH
SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM. WILLS STATED THAT WALDHEIM
EARLIER IN THE YEAR HAD GOTTEN BACKING OF MOST
OF THE AFRICAN BLOC TO CONTINUE ON AS SECRETARY
GENERAL AND GOG WAS SATISFIED WITH HIS PERFORMANCE
AND WOULD PROBABLY VOTE FOR HIM. HOWEVER, WILLS
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SAID GUYANA WANTED TO HEDGE THEIR BETS A LITTLE

TO BE SURE THEY VOTED FOR THE CANDIDATE MOST
LIKELY TO WIN SINCE GUYANA FEARED REPRISALS
IF THEIR CANDIDATE DIDN'T WIN. HE DID SAY
THAT THEY WOULD NOT SUPPORT AMERISINGHE. WILLS
STATED HE WAS ANGRY AT A STATEMENT RECENTLY MADE
BY THE NEWLY ACCREDITED NON-RESIDENT MEXICAN
AMBASSADOR TO GUYANA WHO APPARENTLY WENT TO
NEW YORK AND CLAIMED THAT GUYANA WOULD SUPPORT
ECHEVERRIA'S CANDIDACY. WILLS SAID THIS WAS
UNTRUE AND THAT HE HAS INSTRUCTED HIS AMBASSADOR
AT THE UNITED NATIONS ACCORDINGLY.

2. GUAM. WHILE ON SUBJECT OF UNITED NATIONS
AFFAIRS, CHARGE ASKED WILLS WHETHER GOG HAD
DECIDED TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON GUAM. WILLS
SAID HE WAS AWARE OF CONVERSATIONS DURING THE
PAST WEEK BETWEEN CHARGE AND ACTING MFA PERMANENT
SECRETARY SEARWAR TO THAT EFFECT AND HE WAS
SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. POSITION. CHARGE STATED
THAT FRANKLY HE WAS PUZZLED BY GUYANA'S POSITION
SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS AWARE THAT IN MOST
RECENT ELECTION HELD ON THE ISLAND OVER 90 PERCENT
OF THOSE WHO VOTED SUPPORTED GUAM'S COMMONWEALTH
POSITION WITH THE U.S. THEREFORE CHARGE OF
COLONIALISM NOT PERTINENT IN THIS MATTER SINCE
GUAMANIAN'S HAD CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED IN A FREE
ELECTION THEIR DESIRES TO MAINTAIN THEIR
ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S. WILLS SAID HE KNEW
THIS AND WAS STUDYING THE ISSUE. WILLS CONTINUED
THAT HE ALSO WAS AWARE THAT THE RECENT ELECTION
IN PUERTO RICO HAD CLEARLY PUT TO REST ANY CLAIMS
THAT PUERTO RICANS WERE BEING HELD BY THE UNITED
STATES AGAINST THEIR WILL. CHARGE REITERATED
IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO BOTH OF THESE
SUBJECTS. WILLS REPLIED HE WAS WELL AWARE OF THAT
AND SAID THAT HE HAD VISITED GUAM ON HIS RETURN
FROM MANILA LAST YEAR AND HAD ASKED A NUMBER OF
GUAMANIAN'S ABOUT THEIR FEELINGS CONCERNING
THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES AND
ALL PROFESSED TO BE QUITE HAPPY. WILLS CONTINUED
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HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THEIR REPLIES SINCE IN THEIR
EYES HE WAS PROBABLY SOME SEEDY BLACK RADICAL
WHO WAS PREPARED TO HEAR THE WORST.

3. SUBJECT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRAVEL. WILLS
SAID THAT HE PLANNED TO DEPART GUYANA FOR A VISIT
TO NEW YORK AND LAGOS ON DECEMBER 15. HE
INDICATED VISITS TO BOTH CAPITALS WOULD BE

UNOFFICIAL AND JOKINGLY REFERRED TO LAGOS VISIT AS RESTORING HIS ROOTS IN HIS HOMELAND. HE SAID JUST AS YOU GO BACK TO THE STATES ON HOME LEAVE EVERY SO OFTEN HE MUST RETURN TO NIGERIA TO RESTORE HIS ROOTS. CHARGE THEN NOTED FOREIGN MINISTER WAS DEPARTING DAY AFTER MAJOR SPEECH BY PRIME MINISTER SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 14. WILLS ANSWERED THAT'S CORRECT BUT HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY PARTICULAR FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH ALTHOUGH HE WAS WORKING ON IT AT THIS TIME TO INSURE SPEECH WAS MODERATE IN TONE.

4. COMMENT: CHARGE ASSUMES WILLS WILL BE VISITING UN DURING STAY IN NEW YORK AND BELIEVES MEETING WITH MEMBER USUN FOR DISCUSSIONS ON GUAM COULD RESULT IN GOG AT LEAST ABSTAINING ON NEXT VOTE FOR GUAM. EMBASSY HAS HEARD RUMORS THAT GUYANA HAS REQUESTED ECONOMIC AID(PETROLEUM AND BUDGET SUPPORT) AND MILITARY TRAINING ASSISTANCE FOR GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE FROM NIGERIA. PRESUMABLY THIS IS AT LEAST ONE REASON FOR WILLS' VISIT TO LAGOS.
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